

Department of Energy

Argonne Group - West P.O. Box 2528 Idaho Falis, Idaho 83403-2528 July 19, 1999

Mr. Dean Nygard Remediation Program Manager Idaho Division of Environmental Quality 1410 North Hilton Boise, Idaho 83706

Mr. Wayne Pierre Federal Facilities Section EPA Region 10 M/S ECL-113 1200 6th Ave., Seattle, Washington 98101

SUBJECT:

SUBMITTAL OF DRAFT EXPLANATION OF SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE FOR

THE OPERABLE UNIT 9-04 RECORD OF DECISION

Dear Mr. Nygard and Mr. Pierre:

Enclosed is a copy of the Draft Explanation of Significant Difference (ESD) for the September 29, 1998 Record of Decision (ROD) for the cleanup of inactive waste sites at ANL-W (Operable Unit 9-04). This ESD is required to inform the public of a change in the selected remedy for inactive waste sites at Argonne National Laboratory-West (ANL-W). This change involves excavating nonradioactive contaminated soils from portions of two ditch sites and disposing of the soil at a landfill on the INEEL. The selected remedy in the ROD was to use cultivated plants to remove contaminants from all inactive waste sites at ANL-W (phytoremediation). The relatively high levels of contaminants in the two ditch portions preclude the use of phytoremediation at those particular locations. Please provide comments on this ESD as soon as possible as it is our intent to implement this change before the end of the fiscal year.

Please contact Greg Bass of DOE-ARG-W at 208-533-7184, if you have questions regarding this document.

Sincerely,

W. Bregory Bars
Mark M. Holzmer, Team Leader

Argonne Group-West

Enclosures: As stated

CC:

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